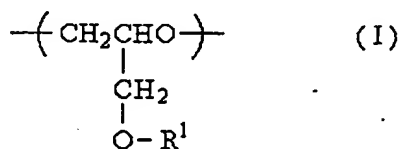


CLAIMS

1. A surface modifier for an inorganic solid, which comprises a polyether having a monomeric unit represented by formula (I):



wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom; an optionally substituted C_{1-50} hydrocarbon, C_{1-50} fluoroalkyl, C_{6-50} fluoroaryl or Si_{1-50} siloxysilylpropyl group; or a group represented by $-(\text{AO})_m-\text{R}^2$:

in which R^2 represents an optionally substituted C_{1-42} hydrocarbon, C_{1-42} fluoroalkyl, C_{6-42} fluoroaryl or Si_{1-40} siloxysilylpropyl group; A represents a C_{2-3} alkylene group; m is a number selected from 1 to 100; and $m \times \text{A}'\text{s}$ may be the same or different.

2. An inorganic solid having at least a part of its surface coated with the surface modifier defined in Claim 1.

3. A composition of a synthetic resin, which comprises the surface modifier as defined in Claim 1 and an inorganic solid.

4, A composition of a rubber, which comprises the surface modifier as defined in Claim 1 and an inorganic solid.

5, A composition of a wax, which comprises the surface modifier as defined in Claim 1 and an inorganic solid.

6, A composition of a liquid, which comprises the surface modifier as defined in Claim 1 and an inorganic solid.

7, A composition of a flame-retardant resin, which comprises the surface modifier as defined in Claim 1 and an inorganic solid.

8, A method which comprises treating a surface of an inorganic solid with the polyether as defined in Claim 1 and dispersing it in a medium.

9, A method which comprises treating a surface of an inorganic solid with the polyether as defined in Claim 1 to modify the surface.

10, The method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the medium is a synthetic resin, a rubber, a wax, a flame-retardant resin composition or a liquid.

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11, Use of the polyether as defined in Claim 1 with an inorganic solid for dispersing in a medium.

12, Use of the polyether as defined in Claim 1 for modifying a surface of an inorganic solid.

13, The use as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the medium is a synthetic resin, a rubber, a wax or a liquid.